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## Strange S.O.S. Signals

### May Be Coming From Missing Plane

Miami, Feb. 4.—The United States Air Force authorities in New York said today they believed that mysterious SOS signals may be coming from survivors of the British air transport Star Tiger, missing in the Atlantic, and have ordered Air Force planes in Bermuda to stand by.

It was believed the signals originated somewhere north of the Leeward Islands in the Caribbean Sea.

Kindley Field, Anfield, Bermuda, confirmed tonight the SOS signals were picked up in the United States on aircraft wave length and including the word "Tiger."

Earlier the Air Force had said it was calling off its hunt for the Star Tiger.

Coast Guard stations all along the Atlantic Coast remained on the alert for the faint signals ending in the word "Tiger" and all aircraft in the Bermuda area have been alerted ready to take off should any developments arise in the search for the missing British Star Tiger airliner. Reuter

### GARBLLED SIGNALS

Miami, Feb. 4. Almost at the very moment that the United States Air Force officially announced at Hamilton, Bermuda, that the search for the missing British air liner Star Tiger had been abandoned, faint SOS radio signals, ending with the word "Tiger" were picked up along the entire Atlantic seaboard today.

An amateur radio operator in Ohio picked up garbled signals, followed by the word "Tiger" and passed the information on to the 7th Coast Guard District headquarters at Miami.

By 9 o'clock this morning, the signals were being picked up from Florida to Newfoundland and as far inland as Ohio.

Then the United States Air Force base at Argonne confirmed that its code expert interpreted the meaning of the signals as "Star Tiger."

Search and rescue officers of the Royal Canadian Air Force said they "seemed to be the ingenious work of some one with no knowledge of wireless, attempting to imitate a system." One "dot" was taken to indicate the letter "A", two "dots" the letter "B" and so on through the alphabet.

So far, due to the erratic nature of the messages, no bearing has been obtained to find out where they come from.

### PILOTS' DISCOVERY

Pilots of two Pan-American World Airways planes reported early today that they had sighted a green flare and a white life raft in two separate areas of the Atlantic, about 700 miles south of Bermuda. Both went (Continued on Page 4)

## Ironical Laughter Greets Govt. Reply On H.K. Airport

London, Feb. 4.—When asked in the House of Commons today if he would make a statement about the provision of a new airport for Hongkong and how it would be financed, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, replied: "This matter is under active consideration. I am not yet in a position to make a statement."

This drew ironic opposition laughter. Mr. William Teeling, Conservative, asked if the Minister realised that this had taken a long time. It was a very urgent matter for the air services of the Far East.

Mr. Creech Jones replied that "very considerable progress" had already been made and he hoped to make a statement shortly. Mr. W. R. Brown, Independent, asked: "When shall we pass from active consideration to passive action?" There was no reply.—Reuter.

## U.N. Report Reviews Orient's Problems

### DISRUPTED ECONOMIC LIFE

Lake Success, Feb. 4.—The Orient is faced with the same problems of inflation, food shortages, and disruption of economic life plaguing the rest of the world, the United Nations said in its first economic report.

A special section of the 257-page book devoted to Oriental conditions said: "Only Siam, Burma, and India-China, the traditional food surplus territories of the area, appear to have maintained by and large their pre-war dietary levels."

"Forced requisitioning of food by the Japanese army caused great tracts of land in the occupied territories to be left fallow." Rehabilitation since the war has been slow, the report said, because of the "disintegration of economic organization, the breakdown of transport, and the lack of foreign exchange."

### DECLINE IN CROPS

"A five percent decline in the rice crop of the Indian subcontinent is forecast for the 1947-48 crop year," the report said. It said the Japanese crop is likely to be reduced three percent by typhoons and floods in the current year.

"Somewhat larger" rice crops were predicted for China, Korea, Malaya, Burma and Siam for this crop year. But, the report continued, "in the region as a whole the rice crop now being harvested approximates that of the preceding crop year."

Oil and fats production and consumption "generally remain far below pre-war levels," the report said, "with the notable exception of the Philippines whose production and exports of copra of late have been remarkably expanded."

Discussing the outlook for silk in China and Japan, the report said: "The development of synthetic substitutes for the natural product makes it highly improbable raw silk will regain its pre-war position."

### POTENTIAL SURPLUS

Rubber also was affected by the development of synthetics. The re-

port added, "Rubber seems to be the only raw material of vegetable origin for which there may be a potential surplus, a large part of the acreage planted with rubber trees still remaining untapped."

Dislocation of mining and textile industries was sketched by the report.

On capital structure in the Orient, the report said, "The tendency of domestic capital to assume an increasing share in the development of major industries, has gained in force with the political changes brought about or precipitated by the war and is manifesting itself most actively in India and China and also in the Philippines and Indonesia." Associated Press.

## China's Fibre Industry

### U.S. Experts To Make Survey

Washington, Feb. 4.—Simultaneously with the return of three experts from a study of Japan's cotton industry, it was learned the U.S. is planning to dispatch fibre experts to survey the industry in both Japan and China.

The U.S. Agriculture Department is concerned with the possible increased competition from Indian and Egyptian fibres, Japanese mills, which got their start after the war on American cotton, are using these fibres in increasing amounts.

The projected new survey is to study the Japanese industry with the view to increasing use of American fibre. The experts are expected to show a similar interest in China during a projected six months' stay in the Orient.

The U.S. Agriculture Department is also understood to be seeking an adviser requested by the Chinese government to help increase the efficiency of her mills. The Department is also working on further projects to stimulate China's spinning industry. Details of these efforts have not been determined but it appears likely they will be American-financed.

The trio who returned to Washington today, sought to assist SCAP's efforts to market Japan's increasing cotton mill production. They are William Jacobs, President of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, and mill operators Donald Comer and Fred Symes. Jacobs said they would report their findings to the Civil Affairs Division of the Army Department.

They declined to discuss their findings, but appeared to be optimistic that Japan can increase her textile exports.—Associated Press.

### Deadlock Broken

London, Feb. 4.—The Government today broke the deadlock in its dispute with the House of Lords by agreeing to an inter-party conference on the issues raised by its bill to curtail the House of Lords' powers to delay legislation.

This decision was described by the Opposition as "a notable victory for commonsense."—Reuter.

### Big Quake Recorded

Calcutta, Feb. 4.—An earthquake shock of great intensity with its epicentre 345 miles away was recorded here at 4.47 a.m. GMT today.—Reuter.

## Reorganisation Of Malaya's Economy

### GOVERNMENT PROMISES INVESTIGATION

London, Feb. 4.—He was asking the High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya for his views on the suggestion made in the House of Commons today by Mr. Harold Davies, Labour Member, for an economic survey for Malaya so that an approach may be made to a complete reorganisation of Malaya's economy to free it from "its dangerous dependence on export crops," Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, the Colonial Secretary, said today.

Mr. Creech Jones, who was replying to a question by Mr. Davies, said: "Much attention is being given by the local government to broadening of the economy of the Federation of Malaya. At present, the main effort is being devoted to the urgent problem of increasing rice production."

"I am satisfied that the question is being tackled with energy and foresight and I am not sure that Mr. Davies' proposal will give more practical results, but I am calling for the High Commissioner's views on the matter."

Mr. Davies: Is the Minister aware that the Geneva discussions seem to indicate that Malaya's economy is completely subservient to world trade rivalry? It is essential that this House should have the opportunity of debating the Malayan economy.

Mr. Creech Jones replied that it did make an enormous contribution to world economy. The question of

a debate must go through the usual channels.

### VOLUNTEERS' GRANTS

Mr. Rupert De La Dore, Conservative, asked whether "in view of the decision of the Malayan Governments to revoke civil liability for the volunteer and defence services and the general dissatisfaction aroused over the substitute of insurance grants, the Minister would make a statement to clarify the position."

Mr. Creech Jones replied: "When payment of civil liability awards was discontinued in 1942, the dependants of members of the Malayan Volunteers and local defence corps were granted in lieu family allowances at rates applicable to members of the regular forces."

"The grants to which the Member refers are made additionally and not in substitution for the family allowances. They follow the lines of war service grants made to members of the regular forces in respect of arrears of insurance premiums."

"There is no need for special promulgation of the scales of these grants."

### AUDIT QUESTIONS

When another Conservative Member asked what progress had been made with auditing the accounts of the Joint Supply Board in Malaya and the United Kingdom, Mr. Creech Jones said: "The Financial Secretary of the Malayan Union, on his recent visit to Britain, discussed with the Director General of the Colonial Audit the question of an audit of the accounts and proposals regarding detailed arrangements are now under urgent consideration by the Malayan Governments."

Asked by Mr. John Parker, Labour, why the medical programme authorised for the Solomon Islands in 1946 had been cut and when it was to be carried out, Mr. Creech Jones said there was no question of an approved scheme having been cut down.

The programme for the development of the medical services of the protectorate covered a period of 10 years and was being carried out by stages. An interim Colonial Development and Welfare scheme was pending his approval of the overall plan of development begun last year as a priority measure.

It was possible that on certain items not as much progress had been made as was hoped.

A further scheme representing the second instalment of the full medical programme was now being considered.—Reuter.

## EXPENSIVE SOVIET INDUSTRIES

### Call For Economy

Moscow, Feb. 4.—Speaker after speaker in the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) today warned that Russian industries must slash operating costs—in both labour and raw materials—in order to return increased profits to the State.

The battery, "Economy in 1948" was taken up by the Communist Party newspaper, "Pravda", which pointed out that the recent monetary reform which resulted in a general lowering of prices had cut into the State's income from commerce and trade.

Speakers said that if the 1948 budget's anticipated revenue was to be met, industry must do it by reducing production costs and increasing profits.

(Moscow Radio, heard in London, reported that the Lower House unanimously adopted the 1948 budget, providing an income of 85,600,000,000 roubles, expenditures of 75,700,000,000 roubles. It said the Council also unanimously approved decrees issued by the interim executive body between the third and fourth sessions of Parliament.)

### POOR MANAGEMENT

Pravda cited a "number of enterprises" where poor management had "permitted large losses and expenditure of raw materials and fuel."

"Considerable" losses from flawed goods and equipment is not utilised sufficiently... all this leads to non-fulfilment of State assignments.

"Fulfillment plans lowering costs and accumulating profits must be law for all workers of socialist enterprises."

The newspaper called for technical improvements, improved organisation of labour, economical expenditure of raw materials. It cautioned that the drive for profits should not be confused with the capitalist profit motive. It said: "In capitalist countries, profit is the most important criterion of private economic activity. Exploitation of toilers is the source of giant profits of capitalists. In our country, raising profits of enterprises is the source... of wellbeing of the people and strengthening of the might of the Soviet State."

The Moscow press reported a voluntary movement among factories to renounce State subsidisation in 1948 in line with the economy drive.—United Press.

## Battle With Giant Seas

New York, Feb. 4.—The Queen Mary arrived in New York today 48 hours late after a voyage which her skipper described as "one of the worst I have known in 40 years."

The liner docked in a snow storm but the 1,280 crew and 350 dockworkers immediately began the task of turning the giant round by 5 a.m. GMT tomorrow, which would make a record turn around of only 17 hours.

The Queen Mary's master, Commodore Illingworth, said the vessel met "colossal" seas with winds of near hurricane force and he had to slow down the ship on three successive days.

The voyage, which usually takes five days, this time occupied nearly seven and the liner's usual average of 28 knots fell to 19.37 knots.—Reuter.

## The Marshall Plan In Jeopardy

Washington, Feb. 4.—Very grave concern is being felt by the United States Government over the progress of the Marshall Plan through Congress, it was learned here today from an unquestionable highly-placed source.

Both in the White House and the State Department, it is feared that the crucially important basic principle behind the programme and its essential relationship to the drive for world peace is being submerged in the public and Congressional mind by the endless discussion of the important but not basic details of the scheme.

Both President Truman and Mr. Marshall, the Secretary of State, are understood to fear that this situation will have a most important effect on the morale of Western Europe.

### DANGER SIGNS

It is admitted too that the present trend of the Congressional debate opens up an immediate danger that America's contribution to the programme will be seriously reduced and the passage of the scheme as a whole delayed beyond April 1.

But the real fear is that the Congressional debate and amendments yet to come, the basic purpose of the programme will be destroyed and its success thereby gravely, if not assuredly, jeopardised.

It is considered possible that Mr. Marshall may shortly decide to restate publicly, in the most forceful terms, what he believes to be the basic purpose of his plan, in the hope of shaking the American public out of its present confusion.

The fact is in the opinion of highly-placed quarters here that the public is suffering not from a lack but from an overdose of information. The Marshall Plan is becoming bogged down in discussion and detail.—Reuter.

## Consul-General's Optimism

Shanghai, Feb. 5.—The British Consul-General in Shanghai, Mr. A. G. N. Ogden, who is proceeding home on leave with his wife and daughter in a few days' time and may never return to China, expressed optimism regarding the future of China in an interview with the North China Daily News.

"I am certainly not pessimistic about the future because I have seen so many crises and realise the extraordinary capacity of the Chinese for getting out of them somehow," said Mr. Ogden.—Reuter.

## Militant Hindu Organisation Banned

New Delhi, Feb. 4.—The militant Hindu volunteer organisation, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, has been declared unlawful throughout India, it was officially announced here today.

This is the first move by the Indian Government following its declaration after Mr. Gandhi's death that "no organisation preaching violence or communal strife will be tolerated and no private armies permitted."

The Government communique announcing this ban on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh stated that its members indulged in acts of violence involving arson, robbery and murder.

They collected illicit arms and ammunition and resorted to terrorist methods to create disaffection against the Government.

The country-wide roundup of prominent RSS workers was under way tonight and over 70 arrests were made in Delhi.

Although everything appeared quiet, tanks, armoured cars and lorries full of troops rumbled through the streets of the capital.

The membership figure of the RSS is believed to be several hundred thousand. Many clerks and junior officials in the Government service were said to be members.—Reuter.

## FRITZ KUHN ESCAPES

Munich, Feb. 4.—Dodging Dachau camp guards, Fritz Kuhn, head of the former Nazi organisation in the United States, the German-American Bund, escaped from internment on Tuesday, the Bavarian Government disclosed today. The United States and German police were hunting for him over a wide area tonight. German investigators were interviewing camp inmates while units of the American constabulary occupied the camp.

The United States Department of Justice ordered Kuhn to be deported from America in May, 1945, as an undesirable alien. He was repatriated to Germany, but was arrested on his arrival at Bremerhaven later that year and released in April, 1946. He was arrested again in July, last year, under the denazification laws and sent to Dachau to await trial before a denazification court.

United States security officers of the local Military Government now in control at Dachau camp refused comment on Kuhn's escape while their investigation was in progress.—Reuter.

## BULGARIA GOES TOTALITARIAN

Sofia, Feb. 3. (Delayed)—Bulgaria became virtually a one party state on Tuesday night under the iron guidance of Communist Premier Georgi Dimitroff.

About 200,000 Bulgars heralded the change, parading past a reviewing stand where Dimitroff stood flanked by a Russian General. The paraders shouted themselves hoarse acclaiming Dimitroff.

The transition was accomplished by re-organising the Fatherland Front from a Communist dominated coalition into a political party. It now embraces all other Bulgarian parties, virtually all mass organisations, and individuals with no political allegiance.—Associated Press.

## Five New Russian Railways Lead To Manchuria

London, Feb. 4.—Russia is currently building five new railways to the borders of Manchuria and its satellite Republic of Outer Mongolia, the official organ of the Ministry of Education, the Russian Soviet Federation, "Geografiya V. Shkole" said in the latest issue, which has just arrived in London.

The five new rail lines—three of which will run to Manchurian territories under Chinese Communist control—are part of a 2,800-mile track being laid in the first post-war five-year plan, the publication said. It said also that one line, 100 miles long, would link Ulan Ude, east of Lake Balkal, with Naushkin on the Mongol border.

A second line will run from the station at Borza on the Northern Manchurian line to the Mongol border at Solovsk.

The Russian rail construction programme in the Mongol border area is co-ordinated with development of road transport in Outer Mongolia, which in turn is based on the new Mongolian five-year plan, the first to be adopted by the Mongolian People's Republic.

The official Soviet news agency, Tass, reported from Ulan Bator (the Mongolian capital) that this plan provided for a 250 per cent increase in motor vehicles in Mongolia. These vehicles will be imported from Russia over the two new projected rail lines leading up to the Mongol border, Tass said.

In return, Mongolia will export cattle to Russia on a large scale. The Mongolian People's Republic, under the five-year plan, will increase cattle production up to 31,000,000 heads, Tass explained.

Of the three rail lines to be built to the Chinese border, one links with the Northern Manchurian Railway and passes through "liberated territory" while the other two link with the trans-Siberian railway.

The Russian publication said one line would run from Khannor westward through Manchuria to Dorsatol on the Arxan River, in the close neighbourhood of the Chinese border. It said the second line would connect Birobidzhan City with Leninskaya on the left bank of the Amur River, which forms the Russo-Chinese border.

This was described as a lifeline for the Jewish autonomous province of Birobidzhan and may be calculated to stimulate Jewish colonisation.

The third line of 80 miles will run almost parallel to the Pacific coast from Baranovsk, north of Vladivostok, to Poset, key Pacific port near the Russian-Chinese-Korean frontier triangle.—United Press.

### EDITORIAL

## Govt. Should Plan Now

IN 1937, shortly after the Sino-Japanese war broke out, Hongkong's population was increased by more than half a million in the space of a few months by refugees from Central and North China; the following year the Colony became even more overcrowded when Japanese invaders, and street-sweepers numbered tens of thousands. There were also attendant problems, such as Chinese soldiers who escaped from the Japanese over the border. With Hongkong, at that time being formally neutral, it was necessary for the local authorities to establish an internment camp in which these belligerents could be placed. Today there exists another threat of wholesale invasion of Hongkong by refugees—only this time they will be fleeing from their own countrymen, the Communists. Is Government making any provision to meet this potential problem? Already burdened with a surplus population, the Colony cannot afford a heavy future influx of human beings unless arrangements have been made beforehand to deal with them. The housing of refugees is, itself, a riddle not easy of solution, but other difficulties also arise—social and political. One of the biggest headaches given to the authorities in 1938 was the danger to public health caused by the streaming-in of refugees who possessed neither homes, nor the financial resources to obtain them. They packed themselves everywhere and anywhere,

and, in their pitiful circumstances, could find no time to consider the consequences of unhygienic habits of living. Only by hasty improvisations were the authorities able to prevent a serious outbreak of epidemics. It is a lesson that should have been learned, and we draw the attention of Government at this time, not only to the possibility of 1937-38 being repeated, but of the necessity of preparing for it in advance. It is obvious that anything may happen in China during 1948, and the Colony should be prepared for the eventuality of an "invasion" by refugees. A co-ordinated plan should be drawn up without delay by the police, health authorities, welfare organisations and the government executive offices which could be instantly enforced if and when circumstances required it. Hongkong has traditionally become the escape-hole of political refugees, and hitherto its role in this respect has been accepted with becoming grace. But in the event of the current internecine strife developing south, the Colony may well find itself in the embarrassing position of trying to maintain an impractical political neutrality. A formulated policy, based on mature consideration, will be required. The point is, Government should hesitate no longer in drawing up a blue print capable of meeting any contingency. If this is done, Hongkong will face developments in China knowing that whatever their repercussions, the Colony is fully prepared for any emergency.



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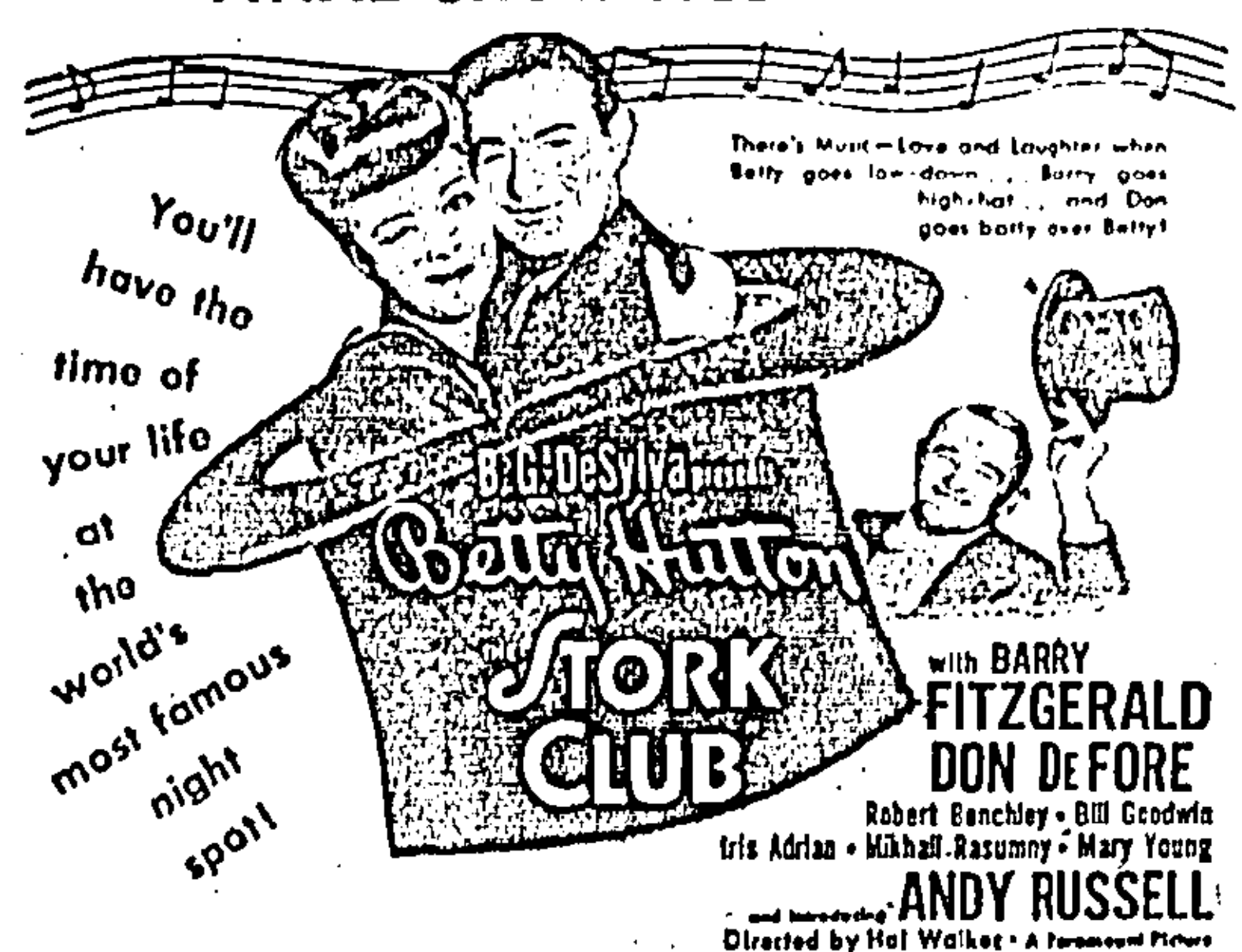
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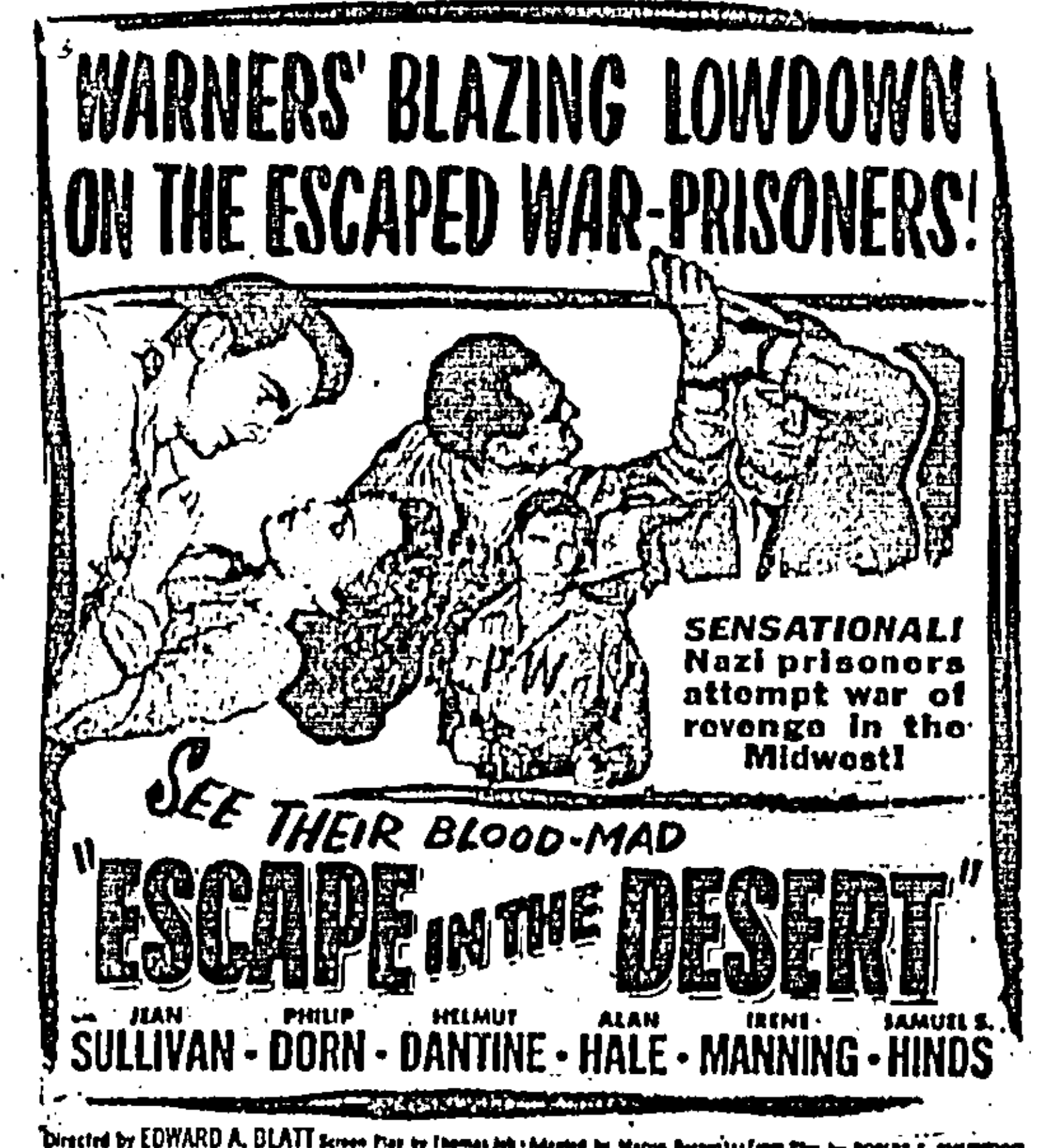
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"Her ladyship's compliments, and would you deliver the water to the tradesmen's entrance at the rear?"

A new technique for choosing higher Civil Servants is in operation at a country house in Surrey. Its success may bring far-reaching changes in industry and the professions. CHARLES WINTOUR describes—

## A week-end at the manor

NINETY out of every 100 candidates for the higher posts in the Civil Service fail to make the grade.

Yet surprisingly few of the unlucky candidates grumble about the result. Listen to one of them: "I felt firmly convinced that if I failed to reach the required standard I could blame no one but myself. I failed to do so and my opinion is still the same."

What lies behind this unusual compliance with the verdict of the examiners? The answer may be found within the weathered walls of a manor house in Surrey. Every candidate who passes the written examination must spend three days undergoing the "country house test" at Stoke D'Abernon Manor, near Cobham. And this test provides the most searching scrutiny of intelligence and character that human ingenuity has yet been able to devise.

### £447 hostess

FEW accounts of what happens at STOKES D'ABERNON, the Surrey "country house test" for Civil Service candidates, have so far been published, as the Press are rigorously excluded. But I have been able to compile an imaginary diary of a week-end at the country house from impressions published in Civil Service journals, and interviews with candidates who have undergone the test.

Friday—Arrive at Stoke D'Abernon about 11 a.m. Terraced lawns run down to the River Mole. A hostess (salary £447 a year) pins an identification number to lapel and coat collar. Am given room in centrally heated converted Army hut. In common room meet 20 other candidates, some women. Have photograph taken in three positions. We listen to a short lecture giving outline of programme by Colonel Pimmet, chairman of the Board (£1500 a year), and then divide into three groups of seven, each with a chairman, an observer (about £1000 a year) and a psychologist (about £1000 a year).

We have a short intelligence test, a quiz done against the clock. Then we complete, in five minutes, a form showing our main interests.

The bar opens before lunch. The older candidates fortify themselves with spirits (at 10s. a glass); the younger ones show some reluctance to follow their example, probably fearing a bad mark. After lunch

(at meal-times we are not under observation) comes a further psychological test. We study a series of pictures, reminiscent of stills from early French movies, each screened for half a minute, and write the outline of a short story round each one. Then the screen goes blank, and we compose a short-story outline of our own.

### Subconscious probe

AFTER that probe into our imaginative capacities, a series of 40 words are displayed for 30 seconds each, followed by 30 seconds during which we write down our immediate reactions. (Some of the words: hunt, beer, mother.) Our subconscious minds now exposed to the view of the world, we hold an impromptu discussion on population problems until tea. After tea we read a file containing information about an imaginary island in the Indian Ocean. Given an hour and a half to take notes, and then to answer questions about budget of native workers.

That ends the first day. Everything has been carried out at terrific speed, so that neither nerves nor preparation could influence our performance. But at night it is difficult to sleep. Some candidates spend the early hours walking about the grounds.

Saturday.—Called at 7.15 with tea; breakfast 7.45; start work at 8.30. The group holds an unmoderated debate on the future of our imaginary island. Then we each have a turn in the chair, and consider an agenda dealing with such subjects as next year's crops and the establishment of a seaplane base. At 12.30 we fill out another interest form, listing views we are prepared to defend in argument.

After a while I stepped quietly over to them and said gravely, "You gentlemen should not talk so loudly in a public place. You never know who is listening." "What do you mean?" said one of the men angrily. I replied, "I am what you would call a big oil man, and I resent your remarks." The men looked at each other and then at my clothes. I was not their idea of a big oil man. Then one of them said, "We're very sorry, sir, but we meant nothing personal. As a matter of fact, we were thinking of the Persian oilfields." The agreeable smile faded from my face. "I own three of the largest," I said stonily, and walked out of the bar.

## CHINA'S YOUTH ARMY RETURNS TO SCHOOL

STILL wearing their padded blue campaign uniforms, 10,000 Chinese soldiers—many of them carrying the scars of recent battle—are back in school under China's little-publicised "G.I. Bill of Rights."

These former foot soldiers are demobilised veterans of the Youth Army which fought against the Japanese in Burma and more recently engaged the Chinese Communists on wintry Manchurian battlefronts.

Now, carrying schoolbooks instead of rifles, hunched over crude desks in chilly, unheated classrooms, they are battling with algebra and history, making assaults on English pronouns and square roots.

This group—comparatively small when the size of China's armies is considered—is the chief beneficiary of govern-

mental educational benefits. Lack of money and the high rate of illiteracy among army units combine to make this so. Thousands of other soldiers must be satisfied with primary school training while they are in the ranks, and because of the manpower shortage must return to the farm upon discharge.

Faced with financial and military difficulties, the government, nonetheless, is keeping faith with the Youth Army, formed in 1943 from those who had had some middle school or university education. When thousands were demobilised last year, it offered free tuition, food and housing for those who wanted to pick up their interrupted schooling.

### FIVE MIDDLE SCHOOLS

IT established five middle schools under the Defence Ministry's education section, headed by progressive General Chiang Ching-kuo, the Generalissimo's eldest son. Chief of these is the National Youth Middle School in Keshing, North Chongking. The others are in Chungking, Kweiyang, Hangchow and Hanchung, in Shensi Province.

The government offered an all-expenses-paid programme for those of university age.

Keshing Middle School, with 2,500 ex-soldiers is typical.

It is not luxurious. The poorest student in an American or European school would be appalled at conditions which these industrious, hard-working youths accept without griping.

The buildings were formerly used by the Japanese. They are grey, dull, and uninspiringly constructed. Classrooms are large, freezing cold, equipped with rudimentary desks and benches.

In many of them old newspapers take the place of window panes, which are too expensive to buy.

The library was once a stable for the Japanese.

### STUDY, LIVE HARD

NINETY students huddle together in the barn-like dormitories, sleeping on beds made of wood, double-tiered, without springs, mattresses or pillows. A none-too-thick padded blanket supplies the only warmth. I searched in vain for a stove of any description.

Fifteen hundred crowd into a large, over-ventilated mess hall for meals which consist of rice, a few vegetables and, rarely, meat. Eating utensils are simple—a pair of chopsticks and a blue, enamel drinking cup which serves the double purpose of holding soup and rice.

Eating time is about five minutes. Everyone stands up.

"Most of the students study hard and live hard," says Keshing's principal, mild-mannered, bespectacled Dr. Hu Chang-chih, who is regarded as one of the leading men in China for secondary education. He holds a Master's degree from the University of Michigan, studied at Columbia and in London and Berlin before taking up his life work in China.

His monthly salary is CN\$2,000, or a little less than US\$10.

Myself: He said: "If his brains were made of cloth there would not be enough to make a bicycling cap for a baby ant."

### Echo from the past

I SEE that some people reproach a Bishop Barnes with being an "advanced thinker." But he is only saying what people like Lamennais and Proudhon were saying over a hundred years ago in France. "Religion is the enemy of science and progress," said Proudhon. "There is no such thing as a miracle when one uses one's reason," said Lamennais.

### Among the new books

The earliest words I remember were my father saying to a school of friends, as he pointed to me, "Look what's been fished on me!" (From "Snelt: the autobiography of a fish.")

JOHN RODERICK, Associated Press correspondent, visits the student veterans of Burma and Manchuria

The school's 205 teachers, including Dr. Hu, share the discomforts of the students. They are generally young, underpaid and, despite extreme difficulties, would rather teach than eat.

Student morale is high; discipline is extraordinarily so.

On the campus there is a clock which bears the legend, "See kien: le sun ming" (Time is Life).

Keshing's old soldiers have a full, busy day. It begins at 5.30 in the morning and ends at 10 o'clock at night at "lights out." Some students have such a passion for learning that they surreptitiously bring kerosene lamps into their rooms to pore over their books until midnight. The school had to forbid this because it was affecting student health.

Military training is taboo, and so is political indoctrination.

### "YOU GET SO COLD"

TYPICAL undergraduates are Tso Ren-jow, 19; Wang Ru-hsu, 17; Chang Feng-chu, 19; and Hsing Hsueh-chun, a 21-year-old Manchurian.

Tso, a confident, pink-cheeked Chungking youth, was 16 when Chiang Kai-shek asked for army volunteers in 1943. He joined the New First Army in Kunming, went with it to Burma. There he fought four major battles "and so many little ones. I can't remember how many." At war's end, he continued to fight in China's unending civil war. He is a veteran of the first battle of Szeplingan.

"I want to study electrical engineering," he says. "I am tired of war. It is terrible. You get so cold, especially in Manchuria."

Wang, a Hionanese, was little more than 14 when he entered the army. He saw his heaviest action in Manchuria, where he was one of the 300 who held off 20,000 Reds in the battle of Tapingling, an action which lasted seven hours and only ended when the Nationalists, out of ammunition, finally retreated.

"I'd much rather study than fight," he says. "In the beginning, it was very hard to study. I had forgotten so many things. Now I like it. It is not so difficult. I hope I can one day become an agriculturalist, because, you see, I love the land."

### EIGHT YEARS

CHANG was a radioman. "My family was poor," he said simply. "When the Japanese occupied our village in 1941, my parents became refugees. Later they died of starvation. I left Hionan for Tszang where I went to school. Then, in 1944, when the Japs came again, 13,000 of us marched to Hanchung in Shensi to join the Youth Army. I guess we must have walked 1,500 li. Now it has been eight years since I returned home. My village is occupied by the Communists. I am eager to learn all I can so that I may master foreign literature or education."

Hsing is perhaps the most unusual of the four. A thin boy, with an intense face, brooding eyes and high cheekbones, he is bitter against the Russians.

"My father was a leather craftsman, and we were living in our village near Antung when the war ended. I was in middle school then. The Russians came through our village, raping and looting. We considered ourselves human beings," he said without bitterness, "but the Russians didn't. One day we got some Japanese rifles from the puppet police, stationed ourselves at the top of a hill, and when a truckful of Russian soldiers drove up we opened fire. We killed two of them."

### HIS ONLY LIFE

"NATURALLY, I had to flee my native place after that. I joined the government army at Chingchow, got wounded at Tieling in both legs, one with a bullet, the other with shrapnel. I have no party ideas, but I blame the Russians because they treated the people so badly, and the Chinese Communists because they co-operated with them." Hsing is an exception. He would like to return to the army when he finishes his schooling.

"It is the only life I know," he says without emotion.—Associated Press.

## BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

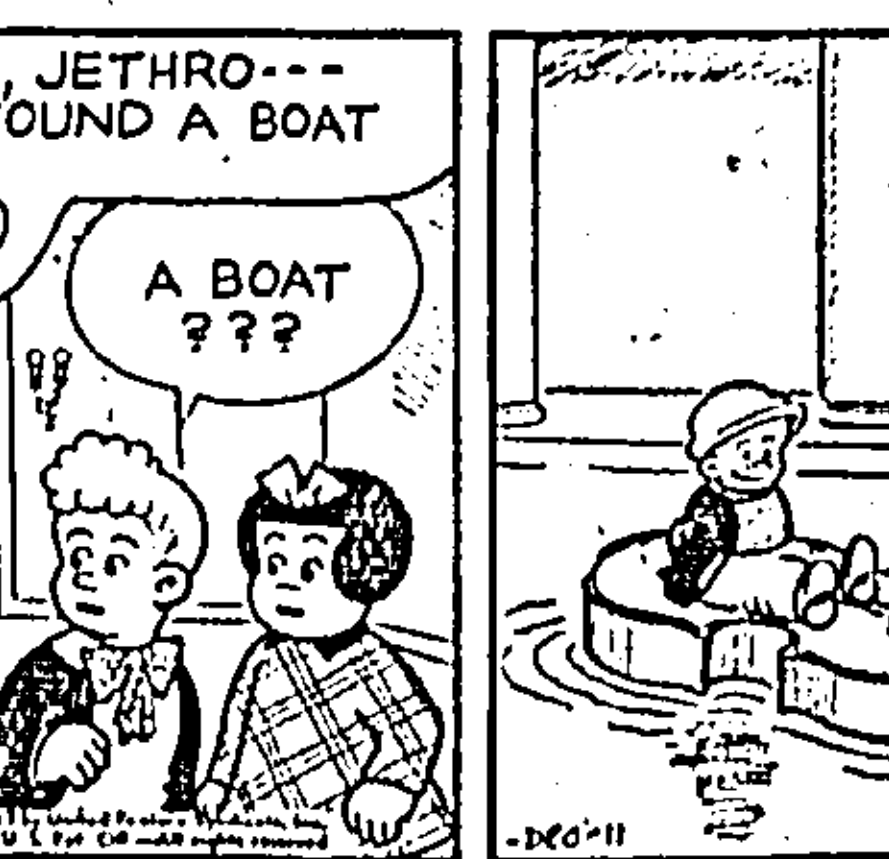
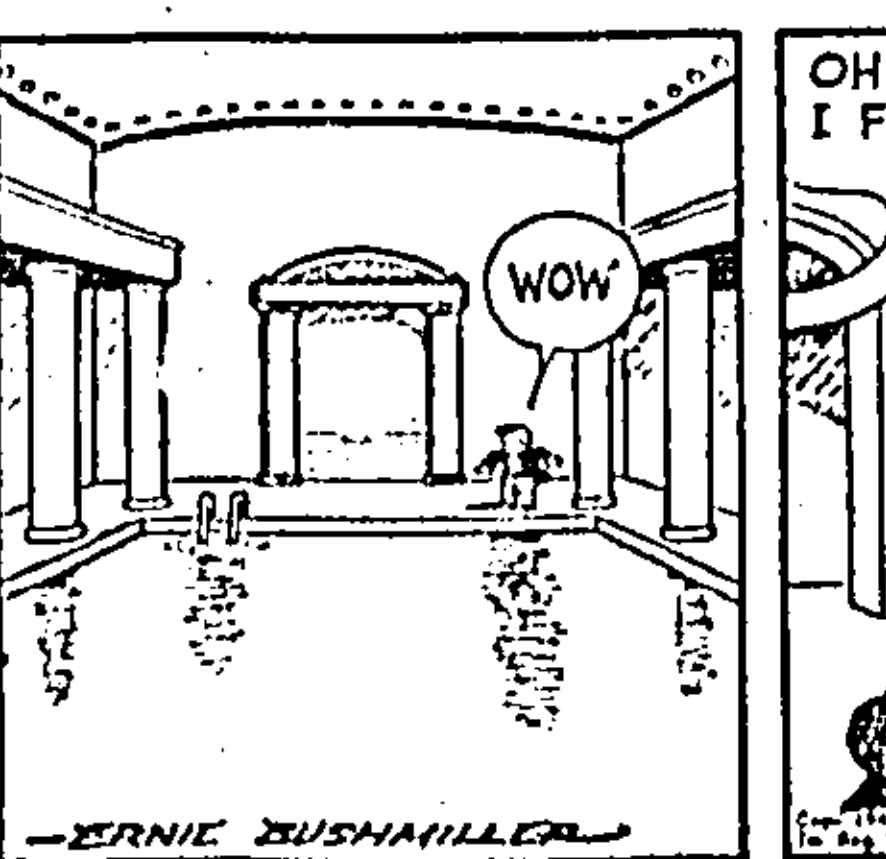
### A storm breaks

A FELLOW-HACK, entering the debate between the Frustrationists and the Presuppositionists criticises me for not quoting Mrs. Palmer, "the Eccelesia of Presuppositionism" (I quote Gaudrole). May I point out to him that Chitterling, in his "Aspects of Bestiality," has demolished Rumbelgutz, and made his theory of transitional existence a laughing stock wherever pseudo-philosophical balderdash is talked? Moreover, Chitterling is supported by Bludenz, Dame Bapchild, Oscar B. Coggenheimer, Junr., the Rev. T. N. Velvett, Eylasch, Bodonitira, Cesspitz and Norma Orstrom.

### Interlude

Prodnoise: But what did Chitterling say of Rumbelgutz?

## NANCY The Vulgar Boatman



By Ernie Bushmiller

As Sm-o-o-o-th  
as black Velvet!

Fitch's  
NO BRUSH  
SHAVE CREAM

on sale at leading  
Stores

SOLE AGENTS: NAN KANG CO., UNION BUILDING



## Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day  
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Marlene Dietrich for Lois Leeds.

Polish up your Star Shine with these tips, says Lois Leeds.

### STAR SHINE

Marlene Dietrich, playing in Paramount's "Golden Earrings," brushes her hair off the sides and wears dramatic Golden Earrings.

**Fashion Notes:** Now is the fitted coat. Claire Trevor has a fitted coat made of Postum-blue gabardine. The dolman sleeves are cut. The hood is lined with pale blue crepe, so fluttering to the face. And no less new, the cape. Miss Trevor's cape costume is of black and white plaid wool with a plaid scarf, the full length of the basic black dress underneath, tucked into the belt front.

These ideas, and many more are seen in "Born to Kill." Edward Stevenson, one of Hollywood's young designers may take a bow, not only for his skill and good taste, but for his foresight in having created a screen wardrobe many, many

months ago which is now the height of fashion. For having, in a word, helped to establish this fashion trend as fashion fact.

**For You:** In the after-dark department, a sheer wool dress and a made of blue-gray, with a long time during from the hips, marking with white bugle beads, the skirt with a slight "nub" and a deep front slit.

For dining and dancing when your partner doesn't want to "dress," a full-length, tight black dinner gown, with sheer front, dolman sleeves and sheer front, dolman sleeves, tucked into the belt front, through. Very intriguing!

### SWEATER GIRL



At a London dress show today, long coolie sweater in turquoise wool, with deep armholes.

*Minute Makeups*  
by GABRIELLE



Take an inventory of your beauty aids. You should have two shades of face powder and, at least, three shades of eyeshadow. A lipstick for your handbag, one for your dressing table; both in the same shade. Don't commit the Beauty Sin of applying one shade of lipstick at home and touching up with another shade when outside! Always have an extra powder puff, a jar of make and a tiny bottle of some extra-special perfume to add that Special Lure upon occasion!

## SCOTTISH NEWSLETTER

### First Gift For Burns Memorial Theatre

By Garry Lunzie

The patriarchs of the Burns Federation went down to Alloway, in Ayrshire, the other day, with white-haired Sir Patrick Dolan, one time Lord Provost of Glasgow, leading the way. There at Alloway, around which so much of the poet's fantasy swirled, suave Billy Butlin, the holiday camp "king," handed over a cheque for £10,000. It is the first contribution to a Burns Memorial Theatre which will be built in Ayrshire at the suggestion of Mr Butlin, who has worked in Scotland for many years.

I wrote about the Butlin proposal some time ago, but could not give any detailed outline of the scheme because the Burns Federation had not been able to come to a decision about the Butlin offer. But it was too big a thing to be ignored, and after great consideration Mr Butlin's idea was accepted. Sir Patrick Dolan, when he accepted the cheque as

president of the Federation, said it was the biggest proposal that had ever been made to the Federation and in accepting it they were taking on a great responsibility.

Well, the Federation have done so, and I feel they will not regret it. No better time could have been chosen for launching a scheme that will be world-wide in its scope. Scotland's position has never been higher in the estimation of the peoples of the earth.

This theatre will be a very big thing. It is to be built near the Butlin holiday camp looking on to Ayr Bay, on the road between Ayr and Dunure, outside the southern boundary of Ayr. That is all there is to tell about the Burns Theatre at the moment.

The Federation is thinking on it as I write, and there will be a cut-and-dried scheme for the world when Mr Butlin meets them to hear their working plan in March. Then we shall see the money rolling in "free at the air."

### Duncan Forbes Memorial

Over on the east coast at Edinburgh, the industrial leaders of the capital were also meeting to discuss a project, much more modest, to perpetuate the memory of another 18th Century Scottish "giant" in Duncan Forbes of Culloden. The new Lord Provost, Mr A. H. A. Murray, has launched an appeal for funds for a memorial stone to be erected over Duncan Forbes' grave in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh. The appeal takes the form of a bi-centenary memorial fund, for Duncan Forbes died 200 years ago on December 10.

All that marks his grave in Greyfriars is a small depression in the ground. There used to be a wooden cross with the number 51 on it but that disappeared some years ago.

Lord Provost Murray's appeal says: "The work of Forbes touched many aspects of the Scottish life of his time and has enriched in many ways the Scotland of today."

The Law in Scotland had a stout defender in Forbes when the government of the day sought to curtail its privileges and rights after the Porteous Riots. He also sought a humane settlement for those who took part.

Contributors to the fund should send their money to The Duncan Forbes Memorial Fund, Royal Bank of Scotland (Golden Square Branch), 2 South Trinity Road, Edinburgh 3.

### News In Brief

Mr James Crickshank, Bucksburn, has been re-elected convener of Aberdeen County Council. The County Clerk of Sutherland, Mr A. J. Macrae, is investigating the possibilities of re-opening the gold diggings at Kildonan which have been closed since 1890. Lewis, the Torry shipbuilders, Aberdeen, have received orders for a 1,200-ton coastal steamer and a trawler, 107 feet in length. Miss Margaret Taylor, matron of the Simpson Maternity Hospital in Edinburgh, has been appointed matron of the Jessop Hospital in Sheffield. A convalescent home for miners' wives has been opened at Leven.

## SUBSTANTIVE PROMOTION IN R.A.F.

The flow of substantive promotion for airmen and airwomen which lapsed during the war is shortly to begin again, and the Royal Air Force will maintain joint promotion rosters for men and women.

Previously airwomen were not granted substantive rank, but those who undertook extended service during the first six months of the extended service scheme will be given substantive rank equal to that granted to airmen with similar qualifications. It will be granted to other airwomen on extended service in accordance with establishment vacancies.

Promotions will be proportioned among airmen and airwomen in accordance with the ratio of men and women in the ranks from which the promotions are to be made. It is hoped to begin these promotions in some trades in the near future, and as vacancies occur they will be open in all trades.

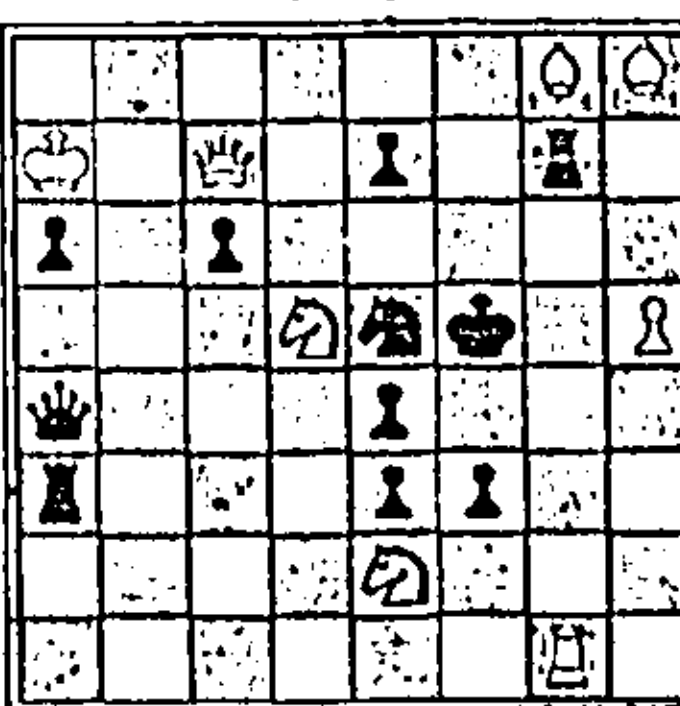
### Another Change

Another change is that all promotions including those to acting rank will in future be made from the Central Rosters instead of locally. Further, it is intended that anyone given acting rank will continue as far as possible in posts which carry that rank. This may mean that an individual who has been stationed near home will have to be posted away because of promotion.

Some of those given acting rank before November 1 last under the old arrangements of local promotions may not be able to keep it. Many junior members of the Service gained promotion over more senior members simply because they were lucky enough to have been on a unit where vacancies existed.

## CHESS PROBLEM

By S. BOBOS  
Black, 11 pieces.



White, 8 pieces.  
White to play and mate in two.  
Solution to yesterday's problem:  
1. K-K2, 2. K-B8; 2. K-Q4, 3. K-Q5, 4. K-Q6, 5. K-Q7, 6. K-Q8, 7. K-Q9, 8. K-Q10, 9. K-Q11, 10. K-Q12, 11. K-Q13, 12. K-Q14, 13. K-Q15, 14. K-Q16, 15. K-Q17, 16. K-Q18, 17. K-Q19, 18. K-Q20, 19. K-Q21, 20. K-Q22, 21. K-Q23, 22. K-Q24, 23. K-Q25, 24. K-Q26, 25. K-Q27, 26. K-Q28, 27. K-Q29, 28. K-Q30, 29. K-Q31, 30. K-Q32, 31. K-Q33, 32. K-Q34, 33. K-Q35, 34. K-Q36, 35. K-Q37, 36. K-Q38, 37. K-Q39, 38. K-Q40, 39. K-Q41, 40. K-Q42, 41. K-Q43, 42. K-Q44, 43. K-Q45, 44. K-Q46, 45. K-Q47, 46. K-Q48, 47. K-Q49, 48. K-Q50, 49. K-Q51, 50. K-Q52, 51. K-Q53, 52. K-Q54, 53. K-Q55, 54. K-Q56, 55. K-Q57, 56. K-Q58, 57. K-Q59, 58. K-Q60, 59. K-Q61, 60. K-Q62, 61. K-Q63, 62. K-Q64, 63. K-Q65, 64. K-Q66, 65. K-Q67, 66. K-Q68, 67. K-Q69, 68. K-Q70, 69. K-Q71, 70. K-Q72, 71. K-Q73, 72. K-Q74, 73. K-Q75, 74. K-Q76, 75. K-Q77, 76. K-Q78, 77. K-Q79, 78. K-Q80, 79. K-Q81, 80. K-Q82, 81. K-Q83, 82. K-Q84, 83. K-Q85, 84. K-Q86, 85. K-Q87, 86. K-Q88, 87. K-Q89, 88. K-Q90, 89. K-Q91, 90. K-Q92, 91. K-Q93, 92. 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# CEYLON BECOMES DOMINION

## Educated Indians To Be Conscribed As Teachers

Bombay, Feb. 4.—The conscription of educated men and women for service as teachers is proposed by Maulana Abdul Azad, the Indian Education Minister, as a drastic short-term measure to reduce the number of the country's 250,000,000 illiterates.

Government officials are likely to be called upon to give their spare time for teaching in evening schools. Factory executives will be expected to bear the responsibility for the basic education of their employees, the Minister said.

The Central Advisory Board of Education has accepted the plan, and it is likely to come up for discussion in the Indian Dominion Assembly.—Reuter.

## Divergent Views In Korean Commission

Seoul, Feb. 4.—The United Nations Korean Commission, at a plenary session today, held the first round debate over what to do next, with China and the Philippines advocating immediate elections for southern Korea, Syria proposing throwing the problem on the lap of the Little Assembly and France insisting it is too early to take any action.

## ITALY WILL GET TOUGH WITH REDS

Rome, Feb. 4.—The Italian Government has decided to get tough with the Communists, "private army," a spokesman for Premier Alcide de Gasperi said today.

The spokesman said the Cabinet, meeting tomorrow, will vote to amend to put teeth into Article 18 of the new Constitution. This article bans secret societies and military organisations for political purposes. He made it plain that the measures, while applicable to such other groups as armed Neo-Fascists, would be aimed primarily at the Communist underground.

At tomorrow's meeting, the Cabinet will also formally set April 18 as the date for the new Republic's first parliamentary elections. The Government has been worried by the belief that the Leftist military groups might influence the voting or upset its results afterwards.

That the Communists have an army is everybody's secret. They parade it through the streets of Italy's biggest cities, drill it in open country and brag about it in their press.—Associated Press.

## Letters To The Editor

### Soccer Interport Selections

Sir,—I read the Interport selections, and what I would like to criticise is not so much the individual players, but the fact that three men have been chosen to play both in the Interport match against Shanghai and for the Rest of the Colony. Surely this, as a matter of principle, is entirely wrong. It must be conceded that if a player is considered good enough to be "capped," then it becomes ridiculous to pick him also for the Rest which team is usually composed of Interport reserves and the remainder who are just below Interport standard.

I refer to Gosano, Forrow and Kiernan and whilst I am not entirely in agreement with the selection of Forrow in the Hongkong team I feel their places in the Rest XI could be filled by Soutar (RAF full-back), Gordon (centre-half) and Howlett (inside-left) of the Police. All three are experienced and have played well generally this season.

R. H. B.

### Infant Welfare Centres

Sir,—I salute you for your courageous and righteous editorial, your reporter for her worthy and wonderful reporting job, and the lady doctors for their steadfastness, sense of duty and above all the great courage to wash the dirty linen in public, which is the very essence of human progress. It is my sincere hope that all these will lead to improvement as it should be. Unfortunately I know that the Medical Department now is so far different from what it was, when constructive suggestion and criticisms were accepted sportingly and gratefully.

As it is, knowing as I do, I have the hunch that the three lady medical officers will have to face, if not already been given, a strong reprimand at the medical headquarters and in a few months' time you will not be able to see them at their posts again. Watch my words! That is the kind of democracy we are having here. "Yes Men" and "Yes Women" only are tolerated by Government.

Nevertheless, please keep up the good and noble fight against hypocrisy and for the betterment of mankind. Once more I salute you.

A MEDICO.

## Nationalising Indian Bank

New Delhi, Feb. 4.—The Indian Government proposes to take steps to nationalise the Reserve Bank of India after September 1948, Mr. Shammukham Chetty, the Finance Minister, announced in the Dominion Parliament tonight.

Mr. Chetty said: "The nationalisation of the Reserve Bank, which is effected only after September 30, when the Bank ceases to be a common bank for India and Pakistan."

"The Government proposes to take steps to see that the nationalisation of the Bank is effected as soon as possible thereafter."

"The Government accepts the policy of nationalising the Imperial Bank of India, but the bank has branches outside India, the Government proposes to examine carefully various technical questions that arise in connection with nationalisation before that policy is implemented."

### Appeal To Farmers

Nanking, Feb. 5.—An appeal to farmers to help crush the Communist rebellion was made by Ku Chen-kung, Minister of Social Affairs, in a broadcast on the eve of Farmers' Day.

He described the Communists as puppets of the new "Imperialism" and reminded the nation's farmers that they will have to bear the brunt of the rebel suppression campaign as they did during the Chinese revolution and the war against Japan.

## Masked Devil Dancers Parade To Tinkle Of Colombo Temple Bells

Colombo, Feb. 4.—Masked devil dancers paraded the streets of Colombo today while temple bells rang in Ceylon's independence as a self-governing Dominion within the British Commonwealth.

The historic lion flag of Ceylon was carried on an elephant in a picturesque procession to the tune of old Kandyan drums and pipes.

## SOVIET NOTE TO PERSIA A THREAT

Tehran, Feb. 4.—Government circles here consider the Soviet note to Persia, protesting against the activities of the American military mission, "completely distorted the position" and aimed at frightening Persia into restricting relations with America.

The note did not surprise political observers after what they called Moscow's "abusive" radio campaign of recent months, and especially since the Majlis rejected the Soviet Persian oil agreement.

Moscow Radio has attacked the proposed loans of £62,500,000 from the International Bank and of £62,500,000 from the United States to buy surplus war equipment as being intended "to facilitate turning Persia into a military base for aggression against the Soviet Union."

He expressed gratitude for the goodwill and co-operation of Britain which culminated in Ceylon's freedom.

Members of the diplomatic corps called on Mr. Sennayake to offer the good wishes and congratulations of their respective countries.

Messages of congratulations came from General Smuts (South African Premier), Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (President of China), Mr. Mohamed Ali Jinnah (Governor-General of Pakistan), Mr. Trygve Lie (Secretary-General of the United Nations), Sir Shwe Thakine (President of Burma), Dr. Herbert Evatt (Australian Minister for External Affairs), and many others.

General Smuts said in his message: "The links between our peoples in South Africa and Ceylon date far back into the centuries. Now both will be together again in the great company of sovereign states which form one of the greatest and most powerful groups of mankind."

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek sent on behalf of the Chinese people "warmest greetings and best wishes for the future prosperity of Ceylon."

Mr. Jinnah wished the Government of Ceylon every success, and all happiness and prosperity to the people of Ceylon.

Mr. Trygve Lie, regretting his inability to attend the celebrations, sent "cordial greetings and my best wishes for a prosperous future for Ceylon."—Reuter.

## SPORT ROUND-UP:

### Table Tennis Decision By Stonewalling Rule

London, Feb. 4.—The world table tennis championships opened at Wembley Pool today with an unusual incident—the invocation of the 20 minutes or "stonewalling" rule in the match between the former world champion, Trudi Pritts, of Austria, and the American Mae Clouthier, which Pritts won 21-13, 15-21, 16-7.

In the third game of the Corbillion Cup team event for women, these two players patted the ball across the table with neither attempting an attacking stroke, and after 17½ minutes they were warned that they had a further two and a half minutes.

At the end of that time, Pritts was ahead and was awarded the game. This enabled Austria to level the match at two-all, but the United States won the decider.

Nearly 300 competitors from 25 nations will strive for the team and individual honours during the next eight days.

The results were: Corbillion Cup for women's teams—England 3, Jersey 0; Rumania 3, Wales 0; Czechoslovakia 3, Luxembourg 0; Hungary 3, France 0; Ireland 3, Netherlands 1; Belgium 3, Scotland 1; United States 3, Austria 2; Egypt 3, Sweden 0.—Reuter.

### WEST INDIES SIDE

Port of Spain, Feb. 4.—For the second Test against the Marylebone Cricket Club here starting February 11, the West Indies have nominated 14 players from whom the final choice will be made.

They are the 11 who played in the first Test at Barbados a fortnight ago with Lance Dyer, Kenneth Trestrail and Frank Worrell. Doubts regarding the fitness of some of the players—notably George

Throughout the island, giant bonfires were prepared to make the island a blaze of light when night fell.

Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore, after taking the oath as first Governor-General of Ceylon, told the people in a special broadcast that freedom would have been won in vain "if we cannot use it to give a fuller and freer life to the common man, despite the difficulties of racial prejudice, caste and creed."

Today, a public holiday, was observed mainly as a day of prayer, and the Governor-General and the Buddhist, Hindu and Moslem Ministers attended special services at churches, temples or mosques.

Mr. D. S. Sennayake, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, declared in a broadcast that Ceylon's political freedom, attained today "after several centuries of domination" was of second importance only to the message of spiritual freedom delivered by Buddha 2,500 years ago.

He expressed gratitude for the goodwill and co-operation of Britain which culminated in Ceylon's freedom.

Sir Walter Hankinson, the British High Commissioner, and Mr. Charles William Frost, the Australian High Commissioner, today presented their credentials to the Governor-General and assumed their offices.

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Mr. Trygve Lie, regretting his inability to attend the celebrations, sent "cordial greetings and my best wishes for a prosperous future for Ceylon."—Reuter.



## NEW MILITARY AID FOR GREECE BEING STUDIED

Washington, Feb.—The Secretary of State Gen. George C. Marshall, today disclosed that the State Department was considering the possibility of a new military aid programme for both Greece and Turkey, but stated he was not able to say when the proposed aid for China programme would be sent to Congress.

## Children Being Exploited For Power Politics

New York, Feb. 4.—Mr. Chester Bowles, the American Chairman of the International Advisory Committee of the United Nations Appeal for Children, charged today that both the United States and Russia were exploiting children's hunger in the name of power politics.

In a statement to newsmen on his arrival from Poland, Mr. Bowles said Europe needs help in food, but that the needy nations were unanimous in their abhorrence of the political conditions in which so much of their daily bread is wrapped.

"Food shipments by the United States and by the Soviet Union are being used to sway the minds of the people as much as they are to ease the hunger pangs in their stomachs," he said.

"France and Italy are being saved today by American grain; Poland, Czechoslovakia and other Eastern countries are being saved by Soviet grain."

"The political trends of the moment decide who gets what from whom."

"East and West, the people deeply resent this corruption of a humanitarian purpose—this exploitation of their children's hunger in the name of power politics."

"They must have food at any cost, but they are bitter at having to swallow the hammer and sickle or the American eagle to get it."

"The shocking situation has developed gradually through moves and counter-moves. It must some time soon be terminated. In the meantime, at least we must gain for the children the status of non-belligerents."—Reuter.

## Russian-Trained Troops

Washington, Feb. 4.—Brigadier-General Charles G. Helmick, Deputy American Military Governor in the United States occupied zone of Korea, said in an interview here yesterday that 250,000 Russian-trained North Koreans might take over the country if the United States steps out.

He said that the Koreans in the southern zone "feel it would be just a matter of time."

General Helmick declared the North Korean troops had Japanese arms, and some were believed to have had combat experience with Chinese Communist armies in Manchuria.

In the southern part, General Helmick said, "we have a police force and constabulary to back up the police, but they are considerably smaller."

He held out no encouragement for a break in the deadlock with the Russians over holding elections to elect a National Korean Assembly and establish a National Democratic Government.—Reuter.

## Aircraft Climbs Ten Miles

London, Feb. 4.—The De Havilland Aircraft Company announced that on Saturday Mr. John Cunningham, its chief test pilot, reached an altitude of 50,000 feet—over ten miles—in a routine jet engine test flight in a De Havilland Vampire fighter.

The present official world altitude record is 50,017 feet. It was established by Italy ten years ago in a specially designed plane. Instruments necessary for international recognition were not carried.—Reuter.

## Progress In European Recovery

Geneva, Feb. 4.—Most economic experts here believe Europe is making great strides toward industrial and economic recovery. But, they add, she still desperately needs help.

Delegates and officials of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe are optimistic about the Commission's success in planning European self-help across all political differences. They say the Commission's plan, however, is not to estimate, however, how long it will take the continent to overcome the ravages of the war.

General reluctance to forecast the rate of progress appears to be due, in part at least, to uncertainty over many vital factors. These include future harvests, possible industrial unrest and the extent of American aid—now being argued in Congress.

Under the Marshall plan, as enunciated by the U.S. Secretary of State at Harvard last June, the European nations are required to do what they can on their own and together to put Europe on its economic feet. The Commission's planning, however, is distinct from the Marshall plan. A full analysis of Europe's present economic position and prospects is being prepared by the Economic Commission's Research Division. The Division is headed by British economist Nicolas Kaldor, a native of Hungary. The report is expected to be ready for publication early next month.

Close Secrecy  
Kaldor is maintaining close secrecy about the conclusions of his survey. They are being drawn from data supplied by nearly every European nation, including members of the Commission.

Sweden's Professor Gunnar Myrdal, the Commission's executive secretary, declines specific comment on the state of Europe's economic recovery pending publication of the survey.

He has, however, referred frequently to "considerable progress" made during the past year both in actual production and in self-help measures taken by various technical committees of the Commission. They have been operating here for several months with noteworthy absence of dissension. One senior member of the Commission's Secretariat said that even if European production dropped to a point above the high pre-war level, Europe still would be in desperate need.

Accumulated Demand  
Accumulated demand caused by the war's destruction and long deferred consumer requirements cannot be filled for many years, he said.

Although most delegates agreed that the situation is far from self-sufficient in food and essential raw materials. And due to the present shortage of hard currency the nations cannot carry on without outside help.

Since the Soviet Union and several Eastern bloc nations are active members of the Commission, the organisation's planning is distinct from the Marshall plan, but many delegates acknowledge that some countries are relying on American aid to pull them through.—Associated Press.

## OUTWARD-MAILS

Unless stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the Ordinary Mail. It Mail close before 5 p.m. and Registered Parcel Posts close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Closing Times By Air  
Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia, Colombo, Sydney and Auckland 3 p.m.  
Shanghai, Hong Kong, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Swatow, Amoy and Kowloon 3 p.m.  
Kwelin, 3 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 3 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Manila, Batavia, Sourabaya & Macassar (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Swatow, Amoy, Tientsin and Shekhi (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 3 p.m.  
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Straits and Egypt (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Canada via Vancouver (Par. only) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Tientsin (Kwangchowwan), Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi and Kowloon (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 3 p.m.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Closing Times By Air  
Shanghai and Amoy, 9 a.m. (reg.) 9.30 a.m. (ord.)  
Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrain, Cairo, Bombay, Madras, Suez, Port Said, Alexandria, Haifa, Beirut, Jeddah, Aden, Colombo, Singapore, Hong Kong, Canton, Swatow, Amoy and Kowloon (C.P.O.) 3 p.m.  
(C.P.O.) 3.30 p.m.  
Straits and Egypt 3.30 p.m.  
Holloway, 3.30 p.m.  
Amoy, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Canton and Chungking, 3.30 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 3 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi (Sea) 8 a.m.  
Hankow (Sea) 10 a.m.  
Bangkok (Sea) 10 a.m.  
Amoy and Swatow (Sea) Noon.  
Manila (Sea) Noon.  
Straits and Egypt (Sea) 1 p.m.  
Japan (Ordinary letters & cards only) (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No Parcel for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Straits, Macassar, Sourabaya & Batavia (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi & Kowloon (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

### Closing Times By Sea & Train

Canton (Train) 7 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi (Sea) 8 a.m.  
Hankow (Sea) 10 a.m.  
Bangkok (Sea) 10 a.m.  
Amoy and Swatow (Sea) Noon.  
Manila (Sea) Noon.  
Straits and Egypt (Sea) 1 p.m.  
Japan (Ordinary letters & cards only) (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No Parcel for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Straits, Macassar, Sourabaya & Batavia (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi & Kowloon (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

## ZBW BROADCAST

1. Studio: Radio Rhythm presented by Philip Dunn; 6.30 Studio: La Demi-Heure Française; 7. London Relay: World and Home News; 8. (Bilateral) Transcription Service: "ITMA" with Tommy Handley; 9.45, B.B.C. Transcription Service: "The Maquerelade"; 10. London Relay: Foreign Lands; 11. B.B.C. Transcription Service: "Music in Miniature"; 12. London Relay: News Report; 1.30 Studio: "The Debutante"; 2. Studio: Vocal Recital by Harry Secombe; 3. Studio: Song accompaniment by Val Bowmen; 4.45, Violin Interlude; 5.45 Studio: A Short Story: "The Stranger—Presented by Douglas MacNiven"; 6. London Relay: Radio-Newsweek; 10.15, B.B.C. Transcription Service: "Whom the Gods Love"; 10.45, "Tunes of the Long Ago" for Dancing; 11. Close Down.

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